

Annual Report. Urban Sanitary District. Sandwich. Year. 1895.

Gentlemen.

I have the honor to present the Annual Medical Report on the Public Health for the year ending 31st Dec. 1895 the area of the district is 756 acres and the population according to the census of 1891 was 2794. 1010 being in St. Peter's Parish. 914 St. Mary. 833. St. Clement. 37 St. Bartholomew. The number of deaths from all causes was 53. two of these were accidental and one suicidal leaving a corrected total of 50. representing the actual deaths from age and disease which gives a death rate of 17.8 per thousand slightly higher than that of last year, as regards time 25 deaths occurred in the first quarter of the year 11 in the second 9 in the third and 8 in the last. it will be seen that nearly half the deaths occurred during the first quarter of the year and I believe the usual unfavorable influences of that season of the year were greatly strengthened by the epidemic of Influenza which prevailed the whole of that quarter affecting more seriously the aged and weak - the death rate of that period was high only in those over 65

Number of deaths during past five years.

1891.	42.
1892.	45.
1893.	40.
1894.	50.
1895.	53.

The numbers of births during the year was 71 (30 males and 41 Females) this gave a birth rate of 25.4 per thousand as compared with 28.5 for year 1894.

Number of births during last five years.

1891.	65.
1892.	78.
1893.	73.
1894.	80.
1895.	71.

The following is a Summary of the Registrars list of deaths for 1895.

Bronchitis.	8.
Chronic Hepatitis.	4.
Influenza.	5.
Whooping Cough.	4.
Cancer.	3.
Convulsions.	1.
Asthma.	1.
Tabes Mesenterica.	1.
Congestion of lungs.	1.
Accidental.	2.
Softening of brain.	1.
Hæmaturia.	1.
Heart disease.	2.
Inguinal Hernia.	1.
Umbilical Hernia.	1.
Rupture of bowel.	1.
Pericarditis	2.
Dipsomania	1.
Consumption	1.
Apoplexy.	2.
Immaturity.	2.
General paralysis	2.
Spinal Curvature	1.
Chronic prostatitis	1.
Diarrhoea	1.
Senile Degeneration	1.
Syncope.	1.
Suicide.	1.
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	33.

During the year four deaths occurred in infants under twelve months one from *Tubes mesenterica* two Prematurity and one from Acute Bronchitis this compares very favourably with 1894. when the number was ten - Of diseases of Respiratory System. One Adult died from Phthisis eight from Bronchitis and 1 from Asthma. Heart disease caused two deaths and influenza five. taken as a whole the figures indicate generally a very satisfactory condition of Public Health and although the actual number of deaths is rather higher than the past few years it will be seen that nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ rds died under twelve months or over 65 years of age leaving a death rate of less than 1 per cent for those between ages of one and 65 years.

Twelve persons died between ages 70 and 80.

Seven do. 80 and 90.

One do. 90 and 100.

The latter one a man whose age was 94.

With the exception of Whooping Cough no deaths occurred from Zymotic disease and this fact is a subject of congratulation especially perhaps during the past year. - The deaths from Whooping Cough occurred during the first quarter of the year when it appeared in epidemic form while Influenza was prevalent, for this reason together with severe weather it was thought desirable to close the Schools for a short period and it certainly had a beneficial preventive effect.

The number of infectious cases notified during the year was twelve, three during the first quarter, two during the second none in the third and seven in the fourth.

Of this number two were returned as continued fever two as Typhoid, three Erysipelas and five Scarlet Fever.

The Scarlet Fever cases occurred in April and October.

In April the infection was introduced into the Town by a child who was probably prematurely discharged from Hospital the result being the infection of two children of the house where he was visiting. the usual sanitary precaution and disinfection appear to have prevented further infection. The October cases three in

number occurred in one family of which the cause was unknown but there was a suspicion of letter communication and infection, the same preventive treatment was used in the case and the disease did not spread. Influenza was very prevalent during the early period of the year and although perhaps not severe, appeared to seriously lower the vitality of the feeble and aged causing primarily or secondarily at least eight deaths and to this cause alone may be attributed the slight increase in the number of deaths. During the year there have been fewer complaints of the Scavenging, Privies and middens have been destroyed wherever discovered, the use of this system should certainly be prevented and entirely abolished. The Slaughter House, Piggaries, Dairies, and Lodging Houses, have undergone the Customary Inspection and have generally been found in a satisfactory condition with the exception of one case of overcrowding in a Lodging House which was immediately attended to no other complaints made, no legal proceedings were found necessary in any case. The most noteworthy feature of the Year and the most important and Salutary for many years has been the general adoption of the new water supply for with the exception of about 24, all the houses in the town are now connected with it and the pure and Continuous Supply we now obtain cannot fail to add very greatly to the healthfulness, cleanliness, comfort and reputation of the town.

W. A. Smith
M. O. H.